

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A spatial light modulator includes: a magnetic layer that is made of a magneto-optic material and includes a plurality of pixels in each of which a magnetization direction is independently set and each of which has a function of causing a rotation of a polarization direction of incident light depending on the magnetization direction by a magneto-optic effect; a plurality of first conductor layers and a plurality of second conductor layers arranged to intersect with each other at positions corresponding to the individual pixels, through which currents for generating magnetic fields to set the magnetization directions in the individual pixels are passed; and a plurality of dielectric layers for enhancing the function of the pixels. A polarization direction of light incident on the spatial light modulator is rotated depending on the magnetization direction of each pixel.